

by law as after the 20th June, 1842, to increase said rate of duty beyond 20 per cent, ad valorem, to be computed according to the provisions of the act of 21 March, 1833, the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands provided for by this act shall cease during the existence of such rate of duty, and shall be renewed whenever such rate of duty shall be reduced to 20 per cent unless prohibited by the other provisions of this act."

Mr. Benton objected to this on various grounds, which will be hereafter given.

Mr. King could support it, if it was to be understood as covering the object aimed at by his amendment.

Mr. Mangum (who yesterday denounced Mr. King's amendment as going to defeat the bill) came forward in support of Mr. Berrien's revised edition of it, saying that he did not consider it as of much importance one way or the other, and would therefore vote for it now, although he had opposed it yesterday.

Mr. Morehead of Kentucky, also stated that he would vote for the amendment he had opposed yesterday. With this impression of the amendment given out by Messrs. Berrien, Mangum, and Morehead, the vote was about to be taken, when Mr. Rives rose and said he did not understand the amendment of Mr. Berrien as being at all the same as that proposed by Mr. King of Alabama. Mr. Berrien's proposition, he showed provided that if by law, an increase of "duty beyond 20 per cent, ad valorem" should be imposed on "imported articles," then the said distribution should be arrested. But, according to the proposition of Mr. King, which followed the compromise act, when "the increase beyond 20 per cent, ad valorem," "on any imported article" should be imposed, the distribution was to be arrested. Mr. Rives explained, that under Mr. Berrien's amendment a protective tariff might be levied greater than 20 per cent, ad valorem.

Mr. Berrien's proposition only guarded against raising a tariff, on all imported articles in the aggregate, beyond twenty per cent, ad valorem. The compromise act, and Mr. King's amendment, intended to guard against putting a duty beyond twenty per cent on any imported articles.

Mr. Berrien professed that he did not design his amendment to attain this end. Mr. Rives tested it, by tendering the following amendment to Mr. Berrien's proposition.

Strike out all after the word provided, to 1833, inclusive, and insert, "That if a higher duty than 20 per cent, as established by the act of the 21 March, 1833, shall be laid on any article to be levied after the 30th of June, 1842."

Mr. Berrien, after at first acceding to this proposition, (on consultation, probably, with the person who put his own contrivance in his hand to cheat the South into a consent to a violation of the compromise act, at the same time that it surrendered the public lands to make a high tariff necessary,) declined accepting the amendment, and it was voted down.

Messrs. Bates, Huntington, and others from States favorable to a high protective tariff, utterly protested against any attempt to introduce any guarantee in the distribution bill, that the maximum of the compromise act should not be transgressed in case the deficit made by the distribution render high duties necessary.

The detection of the fraud contemplated by Mr. Berrien's plan, and the determination evinced by the Tariff Senators not to resign the advantage which they might attain by the wants brought on the Treasury by the distribution of its land revenue produced a state of feeling which spoke out all round the Senate. Mr. Benton, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. King, and Mr. Walker exclaimed against the now apparent treachery meditated against the compromise act.

Mr. Morehead of Kentucky, perceiving the excitement, moved an adjournment, although it was but dinner time, notwithstanding the majority had forced a sitting until nine o'clock last night to carry the Distribution bill, and had resolved to sit it out to-day.

Mr. Clay kept out of sight in the committee rooms while the fraudulent game was playing by Mr. Berrien as stool pigeon, and his friend Mr. Mangum as fowler. He came in, however, ever and anon, and when he saw his trick had failed, retired in a rage.

THE HOUSE.—Mr. Sergeant now offered a resolution to take the House bill No. 14, out of the Committee of the Whole this day at 4 p. m., and before it was read, moved the previous question.

Mr. Cave Johnson of Tennessee asked Mr. Sergeant if he would not give the members time to read the bill containing 35 pages, before asking them to vote.

Mr. Roosevelt of New York said he would suggest to the mover to amend the resolution by inserting the word *instantly* instead of 4 o'clock. They might as well have no time, as this mere mockery.

Mr. Sergeant now modified his resolution by striking out to-day and inserting Monday.

Mr. Chas. Brown of Pennsylvania now rose to give his reasons for not voting upon the resolution. He had nothing to ask from the courtesy of the House. He did not wish to be placed in a false position. He had heard no improper debate yet upon the "Fiscal Corporation," nor could he tell, until the debate proceeded whether he would or would not take the bill out of committee on Monday afternoon—perhaps if it was found to be a bill for "heading Captain Tyler," he might be against taking it out at all.

The Speaker called Mr. Brown to order, because he alluded to Captain Tyler, a high functionary of the country.

Mr. Holmes of South Carolina propounded the question to the Chair, whether a Captain was a high functionary, although a General might be.

Mr. Brown said a Captain Tyler commanded a canal boat that sailed from Philadelphia to Pittsburg. He knew no other captain of that name.

Mr. Clifford of Maine moved that Mr. Brown be permitted to proceed in order. Mr. Arnold of Tennessee demanded the yeas and nays, and they were ordered, and were—yeas 99, nays 91.

Mr. Brown, therefore, continued his remarks. He said he did not intend any disrespect to the high functionary, as assumed by the Speaker.

The Speaker said he sat him down for irrelevancy, and not for disrespect.

Mr. Brown said he was glad of it, as at present advised, the high functionary alluded to stood second to no man in his opinion.

Mr. Brown was called to order. He said if gentlemen would tell him—what he could say, and be in order, he would be obliged to them.

The Speaker told him to take his seat. Mr. Rhett of South Carolina now rose to offer his reasons for asking to be excused from voting. He did so with all respect to the House, and lest he should forget himself in the excitement of the time, he had written them down, and asked the House to permit him to put them upon the journal. His reasons were:

1. Because the rule by which the resolution is proposed, is a violation of the spirit of the Constitution of the United States, which declares that the freedom of speech and of the press shall not be abridged by any law of Congress.

2. Because it destroys the character of this body as a deliberative assembly, a right to deliberate and discuss measures being no longer in Congress but with the majority only.

3. Because it is a violation of the rights of the people of the United States through their Representatives, inherited from their ancestors, and enjoyed and practised from time immemorial, to speak to the taxes imposed upon them when taxes are imposed.

4. Because, by the said rule, a bill may be taken up in Committee of the Whole, be immediately reported to the House, and by the aid of the previous question, be passed into a law without one word of debate being permitted or uttered.

5. Because free discussion of the laws by which the people are governed, is not only essential to right legislation, but is necessary to the preservation of the Constitution, and the liberties of the people; and to fear or suppress it, is the characteristic of tyrannies and tyrants only.

6. Because the measure proposed to be forced through the House within less than two days' consideration, is one which deeply affects the integrity of the Constitution and the liberties of the people; and to pass it with haste and without due deliberation, would evince a contemptuous disregard of either, and may be a fatal violation of both.

The vote was then taken upon excusing Mr. Rhett, by yeas and nays, and there were—yeas 82, nays 119.

Mr. Rhett asked to have the reasons placed upon the journal. Not in order.

Mr. Kennedy of Indiana arose to ask to be excused from voting upon the resolution, because it was impossible for him to say now, before debate has commenced, and before he had examined the new Fiscal Corporation, whether he would or would not be prepared to vote upon the bill upon Monday, at 4 p. m. He had another reason—he had seen it stated, in one of the morning papers, that a Fiscal Corporation was to be introduced, for the purpose of heading off the President. He wanted to examine into this header before he decided now to vote it into the House in less than thirty-six hours.

The Speaker declared Mr. Kennedy in order, and appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Boits asked if it was proper to allude in debate, to a private letter surreptitiously obtained.

Mr. Brown of Pennsylvania said the gentleman had alluded to a public paper; he mentioned nothing about a letter.

The question was then put upon the appeal, "Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgement of the House?" and was decided in the affirmative by yeas 121, nays 60.

Mr. Pickens now said the friends of the people had shown how odious the hour rule and the gag rule endeavored to be placed upon them, were to them. He trusted that the House would now proceed to vote upon the resolution of Mr. Sergeant to take the bill out of committee on Monday next, at 4 p. m.

The question was then taken upon the resolution, and it was carried—yeas 116, nays 76.

On motion of Mr. Sergeant, the House went into committee, (Mr. Dawson of Georgia in the chair,) and took up the

FISCAL CORPORATION.

The first question was to strike out all of bill No. 14, as reported to the House, and insert the amendment which made a hybrid animal of the whole concern.

Mr. Sergeant now proceeded to amend the amendment, by inserting correct figures. He then went at length in favor of it.

Mr. Wise said he confessed that he was not prepared to debate this bill, and he did not believe that any body else was excepting the gentleman from Pennsylvania, who had just taken his seat. The bill was laid upon his table this morning, and he had with a friend, been engaged in comparing the bill No. 14, with the amendment of the committee, and with the vetoed bill. He went on to give his views as to the difference between them. He said his views were half made up of crude, and if he was incorrect, he would ask gentlemen to correct him. He said the difference between the establishment of branches and the establishment of agents was about the same as between a Fiscal Bank and a Fiscal Corporation.

He said you might fly kites and run race horses as well upon this course, as upon the course at New Market. He said you could not obtain discounts by name, it was true; but he asked what the difference was, when he wanted a discount, between his drawing a bill upon a friend at New Orleans for \$5000, and selling it to the Bank, and his friend drawing upon him here for \$5000, when he wanted a discount, and selling it to the agent bank at New Orleans. He asked after reading the paper that he held in his hand, the veto, whether any gentleman here believed that this fiscal measure could become a law.

Mr. W. read an extract from the veto message, and asked if this was not a bill to create a National Bank to operate *per se* over the Union. The President did not object to the form of the creature, but to the power to create—to incorporate a National Bank to operate *per se* over the Union.

He said all the power this Government held was in its national or in its local character. If it held it in its local character, it never could create a Bank to operate *per se* over the United States; and if it held it in its national character, why steal it from the constitution, by cheating the conscience of the President, by calling a branch an agent, and a bank a corporation? He asked if any one would pretend that a capital of \$21,000,000 was necessary for the District of Columbia. He claimed that it was a National Bank, to all intents and purposes—to collect and disburse the public money from Passamquoddy to the Sabine, and from the Atlantic ocean to the most Western tribe. It was to be the omnipresent Treasury, to operate *per se* over the country. He asked, why press again upon the President a bill which he had expressly declared it would be a crime for him to sanction.

He said gentlemen had drawn deductions from the veto message not justified by the language. He said the change of language of the bill would not alter the bill. Neither could an agent be put in a State without the assent of a State. He asked why the Sub-Treasury was repealed at the moment it was. He said gentlemen had overleaped themselves in repealing it.

They might, after the veto, have left him with the Sub-Treasury unreppealed, to be arraigned before the American people, and go home. He said the House had passed the Bankrupt bill as it had passed its Bank bill, by dodging it; and had made a minority bill of it. He laughed at the idea of throwing at John Tyler the bloody bones of purse and sword. He said he did not believe that he ever had a sword buckled to him; and as for purse, the nation had none. He said it had been said that the Cabinet was in favor of the Bank.

But who were the Cabinet? Tenants of a suzerain, and not his Cabinet. He said the Cabinet was organized with seeds of its own destruction in it. It was an union of the House of York and Lancaster—the white and red roses. He asked who it was that read lessons to the friends of the United States *par excellence*. A disappointed politician, who failed to get the vote of his own party, and who now not only determined to be the power behind the throne, but the power to stride over the throne, King and all, like a colossus. He did not acknowledge the Cabinet or the majority here as the President of the United States. He asked when the President ever recommended a Bank or a distribution of public land to tax the people eight millions of dollars, and break the compromise act. He said any man who endorsed the rumor that he and his friends were the Kitchen Cabinet, was a traitor to the President.

He said if the President had a Kitchen Cabinet, with a harbor from Frederick's friends over to do his bidding, he said the friends of the President *par excellence* had been compared to a corporate board. He said tell them that they might be a corporate board here, but he would point to the masses.

Tell us from little across grow, large streams from little fountains flow.

He said the Whig party, like every other monstrous form, was pretty much still.

Mr. Wise's hour now ran out.

Mr. Tenny of Tennessee now moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill.

Mr. Wise now claimed and succeeded in getting the floor upon the new motion.

He now began upon Mr. Clay, whom he scored under the names of Rumor, and showed his arguments in relation to the alternative in the next true, and laughable light. He said Rumor is a tall, thin, long-haired, long-nosed creature, who is determined to resign, and if the President had resigned, Rumor would have considered him the most clever fellow in the world. Rumor might then have got his place. He said Rumor without such resignation, would get but little here below, nor get that little long.

Mr. Marshall of Kentucky followed Mr. Wise, and after a few words moved that the committee rise.

The committee then rose. Mr. Profit of Indiana offered a resolution, declaring that if Congress chartered a fiscal agent, it should reverse the power to repeal the same whenever it was fit; objected to.

The House, on motion of Mr. Profit, adjourned at half past 4 p. m.

From the Madisonian

Important from the Disputed Territory.—The Bangor Whig copies an article from the Woodstock (N. B.) Telegraph, from which we learn that great excitement prevails in the neighborhood of the Boundary Line, in consequence of the proceedings of the American party of exploration.

The Telegraph says: "We have been informed that they are running a new line east of the old boundary, cutting down and leaving a space of from forty to eighty feet wide, and marking the United States Boundary Line. The angle formed by this new direction of the line is said to be so great, that several extensive clearings belonging to our farmers in the back settlements have been taken in and included as American property."

We have heard of several farms losing from 50 to 100 acres, and one in particular, we have been informed, had been entirely included in the State of Maine, and an idea held out that those persons thus became American Subjects, which has caused an unusual degree of excitement."

The Telegraph adds, that it would not be surprising if a collision should take place. Attempts have already been made to interfere and prevent the Commissioners from proceeding, and it is probable that before they reach St. John, they will be obliged to desist. The editor is willing that they should explore any where through the province, but that they have no right to run a line of their own construction, and mark it as the boundary of the United States.

The same paper states, that Major General Sir Jeremiah Dickson, K. C. B., Commander of the Forces and Staff, accompanied by Col. Bazalgette, Q. M. G., had arrived at Woodstock, and proceeded immediately to Grand Falls.

The Immediate effects of the Veto in Washington.—On Monday evening the different democratic delegations in both

Houses of Congress spontaneously called upon the President of the United States to pay him their respects, and to thank him for putting his foot upon the neck of the money god and strangling him in the folds of the Constitution. The President received them courteously, and appeared to be highly gratified at the respect shown him by his former friends. After a short time spent in pleasant conversation, the visitors withdrew, and left the inhabitants of the White House in peace and quiet. So much for the attention of the Democracy. Not so with the other side, [Mr. Clay's friends.] They were more fashionable than the sturdy Democracy of the country. They came with Tippecanoe banners, and a concord of vile sounds, at 2 o'clock in the morning, and, after shouting for Clay and the Bank, with lungs of Stentor's, under the dining-room windows, proceeded like harpies to defile the porch of the White House in a manner more honored in the breach than in the observance.—*Alexandria (D. C.) Index.*

FEDERAL DECENCY.

It is with mortification and regret in this enlightened age, in the Capital of the U. S., we are called upon to declare that since the vetoing of the Bank Bill a series of petty and contemptible insults have been offered to our Chief Magistrate and his family, because, forsooth, the President dared to respect his oath of office, and save the Constitution of the United States from destruction. Many of the lower order of society, instigated, no doubt, by rogues in ruffes, assembled in the front of the President's House, broke open the iron gates to the grounds, sang obscene and bacchanalian songs under his windows, groaned like true Whigs in distress at the corners of his dwelling, and would have burnt him in effigy but for the polite request of the Mayor of Washington to omit that interesting ceremony on the occasion. The soft words of the Mayor prevailed, and the tinkling band confined themselves to incoherent insults, and music of leather, brass, and tin. The line of march at three o'clock, A. M. was taken up, and the whole city were disturbed by sounds which could only have proceeded from the lungs of a dying monster under the shadows of night.

We are informed that the President's family was most alarmed at first; that his daughter threw herself upon her father's neck, in tears, crying out, "They will murder you! they will murder you!" This is but a sequel to the strange scenes that have been enacted in the White House by the myrmidons of the bank party during the time the President had the Bank Bill under consideration. Threats, tears, curses, and frowns were rained down in one common shower upon the head of the Chief of the American People; and if violence (not personal) could have prevented the President from vetoing the bill, it would have been the law of the land.

We have but one comment to make upon this business. It is disgraceful to the City of Washington, and insulting to the majesty of the American People—disgraceful to the city, because the police should have prevented it, and insulting to the American People, because it was an act of violence, perpetrated upon the person of the Chief Magistrate for having dared to keep inviolate the Constitution.

Alexandria (D. C.) Index.

Unfortunate at Syracuse.—We copy from the New York Sun, extra, of Sunday, the 23d ult. the following account of a disastrous and afflicting occurrence.

We learn from Mr. Sloan, formerly a resident of this city, the following particulars of one of the most afflicting occurrences that has ever been our lot to record.

At about 10 o'clock on Friday night, a fire broke out in a carpenter's shop on the west side of the Oswego Canal, at a distance of perhaps 100 yards from its junction with the Erie Canal.

From the combustible nature of the materials, the fire extended rapidly, and attracted as well a large concourse of citizens and strangers, as the members of the fire department, who were promptly on the spot and proceeded with their usual alacrity and daring to extinguish it. A barrel of gunpowder which, unknown to any, unless it were the proprietor, had been recently stored upon the premises, ignited and exploded with terrible effect.

Not less than thirty persons were instantly killed, and from forty to fifty wounded, many of them so badly as to leave no hope for their recovery. The extent of the calamity is by no means yet known, as some persons were known to have been thrown into the Canal, and numbers were missing. When the cars left Syracuse on Saturday morning, at eight o'clock, the citizens were engaged in letting the water out of the Oswego canal, in order to recover the bodies of those who had been thrown into it.

A railroad car was despatched to Auburn for medical aid, as it was impossible for the physicians at Syracuse or in the neighborhood to attend to all the sufferers.

Extract of a letter received in Charleston, Edinburg, Aug. 17.

It commenced raining here, on Wednesday 11th inst., about mid-day, and continued almost unintermittently, at times descending in torrents, until Monday night. On Tuesday only a slight shower fell. In the memory of the oldest inhabitant, as much water was never before seen on the land.

The Cotton crop will certainly be destroyed; whilst the large pods are now rotting, those about half grown are falling off. There will of course be no top fruit. Toward our misfortunes, the caterpillar has made its appearance in several fields.

Mr. —I understand has cut up a few acres of his crop, in the vain attempt to arrest their progress. Another crop so short as that of the last season will inflict an injury on the Planters of the sea board, from which they will not likely be able to recover, for many years.—*Courier.*

Cure for Rattlesnake Bite.—The Botanical plant named the *Liatris*, is certainly a specific in the venomous bite of this species of snake. There are now three species of the plant mentioned under the genus *Liatris*. They are the *Liatris Spicata*, *Liatris Scariosa*, and *Liatris Squarrosa*. They are commonly known by the name of Rattlesnake's Master.

The species *Spicata* grows very abundantly in this country, and can easily be found any where upon our prairies. The common form of administering it is to make a decoction of its root in milk and apply a poultice of it to the bitten part, and give the liquor internally. The medical virtues of the plant are said to depend upon its terribly astringent and diuretic properties.

The Advertiser.

EDGEFIELD C. H.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1841.

¶ We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a number of documents and newspapers, from the Hon. F. W. Pickens.

At the Anniversary of the Agricultural Society of South Carolina, held on the 17th of August, at Charleston, the following Officers were elected:

John H. Tucker, President; Robert W. Roper, Vice President; Francis D. Quash, Corresponding Sec'y; Thomas Corbett, Treas'r; Joseph F. O'Hear, Recording Secretary.

Agricultural Society.—At a meeting of some of the Farmers of Spartanburg District, on the 25th of July, at the Court House, it was resolved to organize a District Agricultural Society. The Constitution to be drafted and presented at the next meeting. Stephen Lee, Esq. was appointed to deliver an Address at that time.

Elections.—We copy the following from the *Madisonian* of the 24th ult.

Alabama.—Colonel Benjamin Fitzpatrick, (Dem.) is elected Governor by a large majority. The Democrats have also an increased majority in the Legislature.

Tennessee.—Mr. Jones' majority for Governor is about 3,000. The Democrats have a majority of 1 in the State Senate, and the Whigs a majority, it is believed, of 2 in the House of Representatives.

Illinois.—The following gentlemen are elected members of the 27th Congress:—John T. Stewart, (W.) Zaddock Casey, (W.) John Reynolds, (Dem.)

CONGRESS.

The *Madisonian* of the 24th ult., states:—

The Land Bill.—In the Senate on the 23d ult., was passed to its third reading by a vote of 25 to 22. An important amendment has been made to it, providing that the operation of the distribution shall be suspended, when the duties on any articles of imports, shall be raised to a rate beyond 20 per centum ad valorem.

The Fiscal Corporation.—The Bill to charter this institution introduced in the House on Friday last, by Mr. Sergeant, of Pa., passed that body last evening by a vote of 135 to 94.

It differs from the former bill in several particulars:

Its proposed capital is \$21,000,000, instead of \$30,000,000.

It is to have agencies only, instead of offices of discount.

It is limited to dealing in foreign bills of exchange, and to bills drawn between one State

and another.

A Glorious Example.—The *Old Dominion* says:—"In one of the counties of Maryland, both political parties have determined that hereafter they will entirely abstain from the practice of treating at elections. We earnestly hope that the example will be universally followed."

The late receiver of the public moneys, at Boston, under the Sub-Treasury, has received orders from the Secretary of the Treasury to pay over the balance in his hands belonging to the Government, to the Merchants' Bank.

Steamboat Accidents.—Since the announcement of the destruction of the Erie, with the death of more than 200 human beings, the following steamboats have been lost or seriously injured.

The *Missouri*, a splendid boat, was destroyed by fire at St. Louis, on the 12th ult.

A collision took place between the steamboats *Detroit* and *Marmion*, by which the boilers of the latter were thrown overboard, and eight persons killed. The *Detroit* was much damaged.

The *Caroline* struck a snag on the Mississippi, and sunk in twelve feet water.

Besides these boats, the *Maid of Orleans*, *Oregon*, and *Chester* in the St. Louis trade, were previously lost.

COMMUNICATED.

On the 22th ult., at Picken'sville, the 1st Regiment of Cavalry, commanded by Col. Gayton, was reviewed by His Excellency Gov. Richardson. The performance of both officers and privates, was in the highest degree creditable, and elicited from His Excellency encomiums, which every one felt were richly merited.

His Address to the Regiment, was full of military ardor, and patriotic devotion to the interests of the State. He dwelt with felicity on the importance of the Brigade Encampment system, and urged, with conclusive arguments, the propriety of its re-adoption, with certain modifications.

After His Excellency left the field, the question of its re-adoption was submitted by the Colonel to the officers of the Regiment. There were but few who dissented, and those few have authorized the announcement, that they object to none of the features of the old system, but to that system modified, no objections are entertained. Th's tells well for the military spirit of Greenville and Pendleton.

COMMUNICATED.

To the Citizens of the Town:

It is well known to many of you, that some alarm on the subject of Mad Dogs exists in this community. The writer of this, is not aware that any Mad Dogs are now running at large, in the district; but as he has been informed, some Mad Dogs a short time past, bit other animals, in a neighborhood about 15 miles from this. Only one person has been bitten, of whom I have heard. The citizens of this place cannot be too vigilant, in their efforts to prevent the spreading of that dreadful disease, hydrophobia, among us. It is not my desire to excite an unnecessary alarm, but I recommend to all to be watchful at this season, about dogs. The Town Council earnestly enjoin upon all the owners of these animals in the corporation, to watch them particularly, and to keep them from running at large in the streets, at least for a few weeks. It is hoped that all the citizens will co-operate in this important matter, and that thus all apprehensions about hydrophobia may be allayed.

A MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

New Paper.—We have received the first number of a new Democratic paper, entitled the "Index," published at Alexandria, D. C., by John M. Johnson, the editorial department under the charge of Jesse E. Dow, Esq.,—to be published semi-weekly during the recess of Congress and tri-weekly during the session at \$5 00 per annum. We extract the following from its columns, as a specimen of what we may expect to receive from its talented independent editor:

Ourself.—"This day we commence a new existence; and the manner in which we act our part must be gathered from the succeeding columns."

We have studied the rudiments of our political faith in adversity, surrounded by many bitter enemies, whose fathers were Tories in the days of the Revolution, and like the refiners' gold, we trust, we have come forth from the crucible of political persecution purified by fire and stamped with the impress of liberty by the hands of our teacher. The principles and practice of the apostle of Democracy—the immortal Jefferson—have been the standard by which we delighted to measure and be measured, and every hour has implanted the truth still deeper in our heart, that the only path for the patriot to tread is in the highway of our blessed Constitution, illumined by the resolutions of 1789.

Our business is with the reason, and not the base passions of men; and our faith is not of that convenient kind that inclines us to become things to all men, or to be transferred from man to man, at a moment's notice, like bank stock at a broker's board. We claim the inalienable privilege—guaranteed to the humblest individual born under the ensign of the free—to think for ourselves; and while we would demur at the infringement of a hair's breadth upon our prerogative, we would leave the opinions of others equally respected, and equally undisturbed. Ours shall be a free paper, speaking to a free people. The true republican must be liberal, and not only liberal, but just. He never can play the part of a tyrant, or act the part of a sycophant. His path is that nobler way which leads to the temple of liberty. Justice is his minister, and God alone his master.

Experience has taught us that man may change with the seasons, and principle become a by-word in the mouth of the hypocrite. Among the twelve disciples of the great teacher there was one Judas, "too proud to dig and ashamed to beg," and there may be the same proportion of traitors among the democracy of our common country. Come what will, however, we are resolved to nail our colors to the mast, and stand to our guns, if we stand alone, preferring a glorious grave in a blazing wreck to a traitor's crown. Truth, like the throne of God, can never be shaken, and to her we wash ourselves, as to a life-buoy upon the wild billows of popular feeling, and with her we shall ride out the storm.

We glory in being permitted to lift our voice upon the sacred soil of Virginia. To her, like the wandering Siliote, we have turned our eyes as to a noble mother in days gone by; and base must be our heart if we could think to her dishonor, and sacrilegious our hand if we could dim the splendor of her ancient glory.

To our brethren of the press we extend the hand of fellowship. To the world we bear no malice, and never, with the malicious Enquirer on one hand, and the infidelable and censorious Globe on the other, we fearlessly couch our lance in rest, to tilt with our country's foes at the world's great tournament.

JESSE E. DOW.

WASHINGTON, August 21, 1841.

National Omen.—We have heard from good authority, that while Gen. Harrison was delivering his Inaugural Address, the Scroll of the Constitution in the hands of the figure of War, in the capitol, fell to the ground. While he was taking the oath, the Eagle in the Senate Chamber dropped from its talons the Constitution.

We copy the following from the *Alexandria*, (D. C.) *Index*.

"This year has been an epoch of wonders. The political strifes of a mighty people have stirred up society from its dregs, and shown us what elements are within us to make a second revolution, when the foot of the money god shall stamp in dust the neck of the poor and the ignorant, and the merchant princes shall measure justice with a pedlar's yardstick in the high places of the land. Had the hot blood of party been spilt in any portion of our country prior to the 4th of March last, how would the melee have ended? Who would sleep quietly now in his bed nor see armed men upon the night watch, nor hear the cry of the sentinels by the Capitol."

"Since the commencement of this year the head of our nation—the idol of a party-colored party—has been removed by death in such a manner as to cause the whole people at the command of a successor to fast and pray, and the Senate Chamber and the cloister, the pulpit and the halls of learning to echo to the strains of eulogy and the dirges of sorrow."

"We noticed some time since a few of the most prominent omens which marked the advent and the event of the hero of the Northwest, but since then others equally interesting and equally marvellous have occurred, and demand a passing notice at our hands."